Action plan for KBK districts in Orissa

994. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi has submitted the evaluation of the schemes report for the revised long term action plan for the KBK districts in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects of First Plan

995. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has pointed out that 171 major irrigation projects of the First Plan at a current estimate of Rs. 97,937 Crore have spilled into the Ninth and Tenth Plans;

(b) if so, whether according to the Planning Commission irrigation will have to increasingly compete with the other sector not just for funds but even for water itself over the next two decades;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered these views; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken to implement the suggestions made by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) According to the Working Group Report on Major & Medium Irrigation for the Ninth Plan, 157 projects were ongoing at the commencement of the Eighth Plan and 14 more were taken up during the Eighth Plan. Thus, 171 major projects taken up during the various Plan periods from first Plan to the Eighth Plan spilled over into the Ninth Plan. The details of the projects completed in the Ninth Plan, the completion cost, the latest estimated cost of ongoing projects and their spillover cost in the Tenth Plan have not been received from all the

State Govts. The Working Group for Major & Medium Irrigation for the Tenth Plan has assessed the liability of ongoing projects in the Tenth Plan as Rs. 77100 crores.

(b) According to the Report of the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development which was chaired by Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, the total water use in 1997-98 was 629 billion cubic metres (BCM), out of which the use for irrigation was about 524 BCM (83%). It has been assessed that by 2025 the total demand for water will increase to 843 BCM of which about 72% will be the demand for irrigation.

(c) and (d) As per the revised National Water Policy adopted in April 2002, the water allocation priorities should broadly be as follows: drinking water, irrigation, hydropower, ecology, agro industries and non-agricultural industries, navigation and other uses. In the further planning for water resources development, these priorities will be kept in view.

Cut in Plan Expenditure by States

996. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has warned that any cut in plan expenditure by the States would seriously affect the process of poverty eradication;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has suggested that icreased agricultural productivity be made a focal point of the country's development strategy;

(c) whether Government have examined the suggestions made by the Planning Commission; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) In an internal research exercise, it has been found that reduction in poverty ratio is positively